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Expose US sponsored S. African invasion

Cuban exiles trained by America's Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) are now purportedly planning to assist South African government forces in action in Namibia and Angola.

The "plans" were "unmasked" in testimony last week before the UN General Assembly's Special Political Committee by William H. Schaap, a New York and Washington lawyer who is staff counsel for the Center for Constitutional Rights in Manhattan.

Schaap, who has devoted years to investigating and writing about CIA operations in southern Africa, further contended "that the apartheid regime in South Africa — including its unlawful occupation in Namibia — has been encouraged and supported by the United States intelligence complex for decades.

"Regardless of the momentary state of formal relations between the two governments," Schaap asserted, "their intelligence services have never ceased the closest cooperation."

Schaap told the General Assembly panel that the CIA has also assisted in commando raids into Zimbabwe and Mozambique, occurrences which reputedly led to the expulsion of several CIA officers from Mozambique last year.

Schaap, buttressing his testimony with reference to the research findings of other investigators, alleged that the CIA has been seeking for 20 years to destroy the African National Congress (ANC) or render it ineffective. He said the effort has gained special importance because the CIA feels "the ANC is now the most popular Black movement among South African Blacks" and that its political influence in the country is growing.

Schaap said his sources had disclosed to the CIA as warning that the growing influence of the ANC has "increasingly serious implications for U.S. interests in the region and internationally."

He told the UN committee that the U.S. is "not concerned about the rights of the

Black majority, but with the rights of its multinational corporations," and urged the mobilization of world wide opinion to force a change in American policy.

In furthering his allegations, Schaap quoted from former CIA Africa specialist John Stockwell's book, "In Search of Enemies": "the CIA has traditionally sympathized with South Africa and

enjoyed close liaison with BOSS," the Bureau of State Security. And with back-up from Stephen Talbot's "The CIA and BOSS: Thick as Thieves," Schaap went on:

"Indeed American and South African intelligence officials meet regularly, and as one journalist has noted, there is between them 'shared racism and political assumptions.'"

The CIA has planted "more than three dozen deep cover operatives in South Africa," according to reports by South African publications. And many CIA agents work out of the U.S. Embassy in Pretoria.

"In fact," Schaap went on, "for more than five years my colleagues and I exposed many of these operations in the pages of the Dirty Work books and the Cover Action Information Bulletin, until only this year, a federal statute here in the United States purported to make such revelations a crime..."

As a cover up, American and South African operatives now and then stage public disagreements as in the case of the 1979 "spy plane" incident. That plane had been "photographing intelligence targets in Angola, Tanzania, Mozambique, Zambia and Botswana and turning those photographs over to the South African intelligence service."

The most serious "sustained CIA operation to assist South African apartheid regime has been the ongoing program to circumvent the U.S. and U.N. arms embargoes against South Africa," Schaap stated. In March this year, the Subcommittee on Africa of the House Foreign Affairs Committee noted this fact.

Besides working with South Africa Space Research Corporation, CIA agents "on occasion deliver the arms directly to the South African forces," as admitted by South African Prime Minister P.W. Botha in 1978.

These covert operations are distinct activities consequent upon the Reagan Administration policy of embracing South Africa in so-called "constructive engagement." This has been marked by exchange of high-level military and

intelligence visits; joint military operations; "and even the barbaric transactions as the recent sale by a U.S. company to South Africa of 2,500 electric shock batons," he said.

Schaap also noted that U.S. labor has provided the CIA with a cover since the late 1940's. Their methods were detailed by former CIA officer Philip Agee in his 1975 book, "Inside the Company."

This connection led to the unpleasant reception by an AFL-CIO delegation to South Africa this September. Plans for a program to be run by the African American Labor Center were coolly received by the Blacks because "the person suggested to lead the program has also been accused of being a CIA agent by former associates and by former CIA and BOSS agents;" besides accusations that the AALC had been used by the CIA.

The CIA has aided South Africa to maintain its hold on Namibia; and while the U.S. professes to support Namibian independence and to hate apartheid, its actions prove the contrary.

It founded and funded Holden Roberto's FNLA and Jonas Savimbi's UNITA in their so-called civil war with the MPLA. And despite the Clark Amendment barring clandestine operations in Angola, CIA still aids UNITA.